

Amendments to the Drawings:

Please replace the drawings sheets containing Figs. 1-3 of the present application with Replacement drawings sheets containing Figs. 1-3 attached hereto as **Appendix A**. The attached revised formal Figure 3 more closely corresponds with informal Fig. 3 filed with the original application, and with the present specification (e.g., page 14, lines 25-29) in that the cylindrical portion 23 is integral with the shoulder portion 24.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-5, 7-19 and 21-47 remain pending herein.

The Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended by Examiner deVore during a telephone interview conducted on June 23, 2005. The substance of the discussion during that interview is incorporated in the following remarks.

Claims 1-5, 8, 15-19 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) over “Applicant’s admitted prior art shown in Figures 1 and 2.”

As discussed during the telephone interview, the Applicant respectfully notes that the present specification contains no acknowledgment that the prior art contains any disclosure of a valve as depicted in Figures 1 and 2 in which the translator threads have a coefficient of thermal expansion which is substantially similar to a coefficient of thermal expansion of the valve stem threads. In order to expedite prosecution, however, the Applicants are amending the claims as set forth above in order that the present claims encompass the subject matter indicated in the March 24, 2005 Office Action as being allowable.

The Applicants acknowledge the indication in the March 24, 2005 Office Action that original claims 9-14 and 23-47 are allowed. Also, the Applicants acknowledge the indication in the March 24, 2005 Office Action that original claims 6, 7, 20 and 21 recite allowable subject matter. The claims have been amended as set forth above such that claim 1 now recites the subject matter of original claim 6, and such that claim 15 recites the subject matter of original claim 20. Each of claims 2-5, 7 and 8 ultimately depend from claim 1. Each of claims 15-19, 21 and 22 ultimately depend from claim 15. Accordingly, claims 1-5, 7, 8, 15-19, 21 and 22 are also allowable.

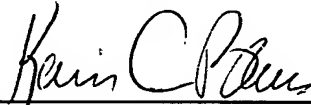
It is respectfully requested that the U.S. PTO reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Thus, in view of the above, claims 1-5, 7-19 and 21-47, i.e., all of the pending claims, are in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes that contact with Applicant's attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, the Examiner is herein requested to call Applicant's attorney at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,



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June 24, 2005

Date

KCB:jms

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